

PLEASE AMEND THE SPECIFICATION AS INDICATED BELOW:

Page 2, paragraph beginning at line 7:

In an integrated circuit (IC), V_{OFFSET} can be as high as 1200V. Therefore, even if the high voltage level-shifting transistor sinks a relatively small current of only 1mA when on, the power dissipation is 1.2W, which is a large amount of power to be dissipated in an IC. This power dissipation problem has been solved in the past by transmitting only short pulses at signal transitions, level shifting these pulses and then using these pulses at the shifted voltage level to reconstruct the signal.

The dv/dt problem can be understood from Fig. 2, showing a high voltage level shift N-channel transistor 50 connected to an output signal line through resistor 52, having the value R. Transistor 50 has a parasitic capacitance 54 having the value C. Therefore, during the fast rising edge of V_{OFFSET} , transistor 50 passes a current $I_T = C * dv/dt$. As a result, a pulse-like voltage $V_T = R * C * dv/dt$ will briefly develop across ~~resistance 54~~ resistor 52. If V_T exceeds the threshold voltage at which a transmitted signal is sensed, an error occurs.

Please substitute the following Abstract for the Abstract as originally filed:

A circuit including a level shifting device such as a high voltage MOS device which is turned on to make an output transition, and feedback circuitry which responds to the transition to turn off the level shifting device. A circuit including two n-channel devices and two p-channel devices can sense when current greater than a threshold flows through both devices of one channel type to prevent false output transitions due to rapid changes in offset voltage, or both features can be provided. Level shifting devices can also be connected so none of the devices receives its acknowledge signal from the device to which it provides an acknowledge signal to avoid a standoff between two devices. For each device, the feedback circuitry can distinguish acknowledge signals so a device that stops transmitting in response to a signal that was not an acknowledge signal can be restarted.

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWING(S)

Figs. 2-6 have been amended. The attached sheets of formal drawings replace the original sheet(s) including the above-mentioned figures.